Telematic applications in Transport Sector

2951. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has the potential to become a telematics sourcing hub for global automotive companies;

(b) if so, the special features thereof; and

(c) whether Government have explored the possibility to use telematic applications in transport sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) to (c) Automotive telematics is the application of wireless communications and information technology to the transport systems. C-DOT and other telematics related R&D centre in public and private sectors have enough expertise in the development of software and hardware related to Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). Human resources in these areas are plenty. India has been successfully outsourcing software to Global companies in different areas. India could also become the hub for automotive telematics by tie-ups for hardware, if necessary.

STD/ISD/PCO booths in Uttaranchal

†2952. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of pending applications for providing STD/ISD telephone and PCO booths in all the telecom circles of Uttaranchal during the last two years; and

(b) what steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Sir, the details of applications

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

pending for STD/ISD telephones and PCOs during the last two years are given as under:

	As on 31.3.2002	As on 31.3.2003
Number of applications pending for provision of STD/ISD Telephones in Uttaranchal	2322	2958
Number of pending applications for provision of STD/ISD, PCO booths	261	356

(b) Efforts are afoot to make the areas technically feasible by increasing the capacity of existing exchanges, installation of new exchanges wherever necessary and laying underground cables wherever required as also introduction of WLL based technology in areas not accessible by underground cable.

Scam in BSNL's Central Store of Moradabad

†2953. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that a scam has come to light in the central store of BSNL, Moradabad;

(b) if so, when Government came to know about it and the losses occurred therein;

(c) the persons found responsible for the scam; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Irregularities have been noticed in disposal of stores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.